

ABSTRACT

1 A method for sterilizing industrial products using a ethylene oxide in conjunction
2 with one or more of the following techniques is disclosed: steam pulses; steam conditioning;
3 deep vacuum pulses with nitrogen; and, positive pressure pulses of inert gases. The entire
4 sterilization process, which consists of conditioning , sterilizing, and degassing the product,
5 is performed in a singled chamber. The product is releasable from an ethylene oxide residual
6 standpoint at the completion of the process. The entire process takes 10 to 20 hours.